

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MASAHIRO HOSODA ET AL

Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit:

Filed: Concurrently Herewith Examiner:

Title: COMBINATION SEAL RING WITH ENCODER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

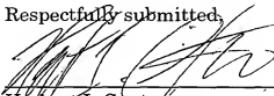
These prior art documents were also submitted in several Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 4, 2000, October 24, 2000, and March 28, 2001 in the parent application Serial No. 09/541,697.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the

first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Herbert I. Cantor  
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Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office		Attorney Docket No. 38920.48799C1	Serial No. To Be Assigned
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Applicant: Masahiro HOSODA, et al.	
		Filing Date Concurrently Herewith	Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
AZ	6250811	06/2001	Mizukoshi, et al.			
AB	6170992	01/2001	Angelo, et al.			
AC	5947611	07/1999	Nagase			
AD	5431413	11/1995	Hajzler			
AE	Des. 405723	02/1999	Anscher			
AF	Des. 405724	02/1999	Anscher			
AG	Des. 405725	02/1999	Anscher			
AH	Des. 422142	04/2000	Hicks, et al.			
AI	Des. 426063	06/2000	Hicks, et al.			
AJ	658124	09/1900	Semple			
AK	664814	12/1900	Manes			
AL	751090	02/1904	Marold			
AM	967664	08/1910	Peterson			
AN	1565392	12/1925	Powers			
AO	2412895	12/1946	Lewis			
AP	2585089	02/1952	Caldwell, et al.			
AQ	3896527	07/1975	Miller, et al.			
AR	4387490	06/1983	Blackburn, et al.			
AS	4441677	04/1984	Byerly			
AT	4586499	05/1986	Kaletzky			
AU	4692970	09/1987	Anthony, et al.			
AV	4795069	01/1989	Ferrill			
AW	5027477	07/1991	Seron			
AX	5121865	06/1992	Howard			
AY	5127137	07/1992	Krauss			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.	

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent & Trademark OfficeAttorney Docket No.  
38920.48799C1Serial No.  
To Be AssignedINFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant: Masahiro HOSODA, et al.

Filing Date  
Concurrently Herewith

Group

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
AZ	5136756	08/1992	Krauss			
BA	5216786	06/1993	Anscher			
BB	5274887	01/1994	Fudaki			
BC	5365642	11/1994	Rekuc, et al.			
BD	5414903	05/1995	Porteous			
BE	5475901	12/1995	Anscher			
BF	5561891	06/1995	Hsieh			
BG	5582337	12/1996	McPherson, et al.			
BH	5669119	09/1997	Seron			
BI	5689860	11/1997	Matoda, et al.			
BJ	5842256	12/1998	Anscher			
BK	5855057	01/1999	Anscher			
BL	5893199	04/1999	Anscher			
BM	5933925	08/1999	Anscher, et al.			
BN	5974637	11/1999	Tracy, et al.			
BO	5143458	09/1992	Alff, et al.			
BP	4948277	08/1990	Alff			
BQ	5454647	10/1995	Otto			
BR	5458420	10/1995	Otto			
BS	5530344	06/1996	Caillaut, et al.			
BT	5611545	03/1997	Nicot			
BU	6065879	05/2000	Mitsue, et al.			
BW	6170992	01/2001	Angelo, et al.			

EXAMINER

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		Filing Date Concurrently Herewith	Group

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	TRANSLATION	
						Yes	No
BX	891022	03/1962	United Kingdom				
BY	3837261	05/1990	Germany				
BZ	2528784	08/1991	Japan				
CA	2660975	10/1991	France				
CB	2740186	04/1997	France				
CC	526233	02/1993	Japan				
CD	6421219	01/1989	Japan				
CE	5238369	09/1993	Japan				
CF	6281018	10/1994	Japan				
CG	9274051	10/1997	Japan				
CH	1144702	02/1999	Japan				
CI	0495323	07/1992	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
CJ	Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 1997						
CK	Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 1999						
CL	Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 2000						
CM	Fields 2000 Collection Eyewear and Outdoor Accessories & Gifts, available on information and belief, January 2000						
CN	U.S. Provisional Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial No. 60/088,262, filed June 5, 1998						
CO	U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial No. 29/105,931, filed June 4, 1999						
CP	Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial 29/105,931, file June 4, 1999						
CQ	U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial No. 29/105,930, filed June 4, 1999						
CR	Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial 29/105,930, file June 9, 1999						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office	Attorney Docket No. 38920.48799C1	Serial No. To Be Assigned
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Applicant: Masahiro HOSODA, et al.	
		Filing Date Concurrently Herewith	Group

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)				
	CS	U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial No. 29/106,139, filed June 9, 1999		
	CT	Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks, et al., Serial 29/106,139, file June 9, 1999		
	CU	SNUGZ USA, Inc. Website, Dated October 3, 2000		
	CV	EK Ekcessories, Inc. Website, Dated April 4, 2000		
	CW	Photographs (taken October, 2000) of lanyard, on information and belief, sold after June 1998, and prior to March 31, 2000, with attachment member selectively coupled thereto.		
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.				



Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office			Atty. Docket No. 313KA/48799	Serial No. 09/541,697			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant Masahiro HOSODA et al.				
			Filing Date April 3, 2000	Group Art Unit:			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)	
MB	AA 5,947,611	9-07-99	Nagase	384	448	1-22-97	
	AB 5,431,413	7-11-95	Hajzler	277	2		
	AC						
	AD						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation Yes   No	
MB	AE JP 5-26233	2-02-93	Japan			X	
	AF JP 64-21219	1-24-89	Japan			X	
	AG JP 5-238369	9-17-93	Japan			abstract	
	AH JP 6-281018	10-07-94	Japan			abstract; see also US 5,431,413	
	AI JP 9-274051	10-21-97	Japan			abstract	
	AJ JP 11-44702	2-16-99	Japan			abstract	
	AK EP 0 495 323	7-22-92	Japan			abstract	
	AL						
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
AM							
AN							
AO							
EXAMINER <i>Masahiro Hosoda</i>	DATE CONSIDERED 6/1/01						
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.							



Sheet 1 of

Form PTO-1449

U.S. GOVERNMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent & Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.  
313KA/48799

Serial No.  
09/541,697

Applicants  
MASAHIRO HOSODA ET AL.

Filing Date  
APRIL 3, 2000

Group Art Unit:  
3626

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
AA	5,143,458	9-01-92	Alff et al.	384	448	RECEIVED
AB						
AC						MAR 30 2001
AD						U 3600 MAIL ROOM
AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation Yes   No
AF	JP 2528784	8-26-91	Japan			X
AG	FR 2 660 975	10-18-91	France			see US 5,143,458
AH	FR 2 740 186	4-25-97	France			see US 5,622,437 (already in file)
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	-
AN	-
AO	

EXAMINER *Masahiro Hosoda*

DATE CONSIDERED

6/1/01

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

**Notice of References Cited**

Application/Control No.

09/541,697

Applicant(s)/Patent Under

Reexamination

HOSODA ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew E. Rodgers

Art Unit

3626

Page 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification	
A	US-4948277-	08-1990	Aiff	384	448
B	US-5454647-	10-1995	Otto	384	486
C	US-5458420-	10-1995	Otto	384	448
D	US-5530344-	06-1996	Caillaut et al	324	174
E	US-5611545-	03-1997	Nicot	277	2
F	US-6065879-	05-2000	Mitsue et al	384	448
G	US-6170992-	01-2001	Angelo et al	384	477
H	US- -				
I	US- -				
J	US- -				
K	US- -				
L	US- -				
M	US- -				

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
N	- -				
O	- -				
P	- -				
Q	- -				
R	- -				
S	- -				
T	- -				

**NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
U	
V	
W	
X	

\*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)

Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

<b>Notice of References Cited</b>		Application/Control No. 09/541,697	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination HOSODA ET AL.	
		Examiner Matthew E. Rodgers	Art Unit 3626	Page 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
A	US-6,250,811	06-2001	Mizukoshi et al.	384/448
B	US-6,170,992	01-2001	Angelo et al.	277/551
C	US-			
D	US-			
E	US-			
F	US-			
G	US-			
H	US-			
I	US-			
J	US-			
K	US-			
L	US-			
M	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
N					
O					
P					
Q					
R					
S					
T					

**NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*	Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
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V	
W	
X	

\*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)  
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Applicant: Snugz USA, Inc.  
 Serial No.: 09/541,297  
 Filing Date: April 3, 2000  
 For: LANYARD CONNECTOR AND SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS MADE BY APPLICANTU.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial*	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
A1	Des. 405,723	02/16/99	Anscher	D11	216	05/08/98
A2	Des. 405,724	02/16/99	Anscher	D11	216	07/14/98
A3	Des. 405,725	02/16/99	Anscher	D11	216	07/14/98
A4	Des. 422,142	04/04/2000	Hicks et al.	D3	318	06/04/99
A5	Des. 426,063	06/06/2000	Hicks et al.	D3	318	06/04/99
A6	658,124	09/18/1900	Semple			12/14/189
A7	664,814	12/25/1900	Manes			04/04/190
A8	751,090	02/02/04	Marold			05/14/03
A9	967,664	08/16/10	Peterson			08/11/09
A10	1,565,392	12/15/25	Powers			05/05/25
A11	2,412,895	12/17/46	Lewis	87	8	09/04/45
A12	2,585,089	02/12/52	Caldwell et al.	24	Dig22	11/16/49
A13	3,896,527	07/29/75	Miller et al.	24	81 HS	05/23/73
A14	4,387,490	06/14/83	Blackburn et al.	24	200	07/14/81
A15	4,441,677	04/10/84	Byerly	248	74.3	04/02/82
A16	4,586,499	05/06/86	Kaletzky	128	171	03/19/84
A17	4,692,970	09/15/87	Anthony et al.	24	642	10/17/86
A18	4,795,069	01/03/89	Ferrill	224	202	07/01/85
A19	5,027,477	07/02/91	Seron	24	3 B	03/20/89
A20	5,121,865	06/16/92	Howard	224	253	07/17/91
A21	5,127,137	07/07/92	Krauss	24	265 R	04/24/91

Examiner:

Date Considered:

6/1/01

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Applicant: Snugz USA, Inc.  
 Serial No.: 09/541,297  
 Filing Date: April 3, 2000  
 For: LANYARD CONNECTOR AND SYSTEM

Art'y Docket No. 14591.2.1.1  
 Group: 36263626



Examiner Initial*	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
200 A22	5,136,756	08/11/92	Krauss	24	265 H	11/06/91
A23	5,216,786	06/08/93	Anscher	24	200	03/25/87 ?
A24	5,274,887	01/04/94	Fudaki	24	265 H	04/20/93
A25	5,365,642	11/22/94	Rekuc et al.	24	600.9	07/29/93
A26	5,414,903	05/16/95	Porteous	24	9	05/04/93
A27	5,475,901	12/19/95	Anscher	24	265 H	09/18/92
A28	5,561,891	06/20/95	Hsieh	24	573.1	10/08/96
A29	5,582,337	12/10/96	McPherson et al.	224	660	06/20/95
A30	5,669,119	09/23/97	Seron	24	265 H	07/24/96
A31	5,689,860	11/25/97	Matoba et al.	24	115 F	06/19/96
A32	5,842,256	12/01/98	Anscher	24	3.4	10/14/97
A33	5,855,057	01/05/99	Anscher	24	614	12/29/97
A34	5,893,199	04/13/99	Anscher	24	625	05/01/98
A35	5,933,925	08/10/99	Anscher et al.	24	163 R	03/26/97
A36	5,974,637	11/02/99	Tracy et al.	24	633	12/22/98
A37	6,000,109	12/14/99	Anscher	24	614	10/13/98

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Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Publ. Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub Class	Translation
200 A38	891,022	03/07/62	UK	44	BE13D1	N/A
A39	3837261	5/1990	Germany	24	265EC	No

Examiner:

Date Considered:

6/10/01

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Applicant: Snugz USA, Inc.  
 Serial No.: 09/541,297  
 Filing Date: April 3, 2000  
 For: LANYARD CONNECTOR AND SYSTEM

OCT 24 2000  
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
 991

Other Documents

Examiner  
 Initial\*

RE A40

## Documents

Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 1997

Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 1999

Snugz USA Product Catalog, January 2000

Fields 2000 Collection Eyewear and Outdoor Accessories & Gifts, available on information and belief, January, 2000

Duraflex 2000 Brochure, National Molding Corporation, Copyright 1999.

U.S. Provisional Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 60/088,262, filed June 5, 1998

U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/105,931, filed June 4, 1999

Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/105,931, filed June 4, 1999

U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/105,930, filed June 4, 1999

Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/105,930, filed June 4, 1999

U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/106,139, filed June 9, 1999

Notice of Allowance for U.S. Design Patent Application to Hicks et al., Serial No. 29/106,139, filed June 9, 1999

Snugz USA, Inc. Website, Dated October 3, 2000

EK Ekcessories, Inc. Website, Dated April 4, 2000

Photographs (taken October, 2000) of lanyard, on information and belief, sold after June, 1998 and prior to March 31, 2000, with attachment member selectively coupled thereto.

Examiner:

Mark P. Kelly

Date Considered:

11/01

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